

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Guy H. Eriksen on September 30, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A method for encoding a macroblock having at least one partition, the method comprising non-predictively intra-coding the at least one partition by providing a reference picture index that is associated with a weighting factor of zero, wherein said non-predictive intra-coding is performed within a weighted prediction encoding mode by using a weighting factor of zero with a weighted prediction tool from at least one of the Main and Extended profiles of the JVT standard.

Cancel Claim 10.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-9, 11-23, and 27 are allowable over prior art references because related references do not disclose all the limitations of the claims, in particular, intra-coding and inter-coding within the same macroblock, and non-predictive intra-coding with a reference picture index with a weighting factor of zero, wherein the weighting prediction tool is from the Main and Extended profiles of the JVT standard.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CURTIS B. ODOM whose telephone number is (571)272-3046. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shuwang Liu can be reached on 571-272-3036. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Curtis B. Odom/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2611
October 1, 2008